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*Agriculture*

233 If two flocks become entangled, the voices of the two shepherds soon gather their own around them again. Lambs and kids are carried round their necks, after the manner of the Good Shepherd. Generally all the sheep of a village have but one shepherd, though on the large plateaux, especially on Ovce Polje (the Plain of Sheep), one man may own an entire flock. Sheep and lambs are very tame and fearless of strangers. I have stepped over them, and patted them, without disturbing them, when walking through a "field." Cows are equally unruffled.

S 234 Sheep's milk is much used by Christian and Moslem peasants. In Peć, when flocks were drifting homeward in the evening, I have seen the people meet them with pots and pans, and they were milked then and there. This milk, in some districts, costs more than that of goats, and goats' milk more than cows'. The best sour milk is made from sheep's milk. This is also curdled into soft white cheese, and, especially in the mountain villages around Pirot, into large round hard cheeses (*kaškavala*). In this region one man may collect enough milk through the summer to make a truck-load of cheese to sell in late autumn. Special wooden sheds are filled in readiness for the cheese-merchant's inspection when he comes to buy.

A 236 The sheep-shearing is sometimes a casual affair. I have seen an Albanian peasant squat on his heels under a tree on a vast plain of grazing flocks, clipping his one sheep with his wife's scissors. Round Tetovo the unwashed sheep are shorn with special shears on the threshing floor of the farm-yard, in spring, about St George's Day. The fleece is washed, carded, spun, and woven by the women.

S 233 In hilly districts goats set their fore-feet on young oak or birch scrub and nibble daintily, or leap from rock to rock seeking sparse mosses and green plants. One or two goatherds take care of all those that belong to the village. Theirs is a peaceful life. One may walk in summer through the uneven oak scrub on a mountain-side, in perfect solitude it seems, when suddenly, almost at one's feet, goatherd-boys appear, clad in rough brown or white. Or one may hear them call on long notes to their friends on the